

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to describe the results of Phase I and Phase II archaeological investigations of the proposed SR 1 corridor from Scott Run to Pine Tree Corners in southern New Castle County, Delaware, and associated wetland replacement areas. This work has been undertaken on behalf of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) by the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (LBA). The work is being carried out in accordance with the instructions and intents of Section 101(b)(4) of the National Environmental Policy Act; Section 1(3) and 2(b) of Executive Order 11593; Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; 36 CFR 771, as amended; and the amended Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties, as set forth in 36 CFR 800. SR 1 is a new limited-access highway that will carry traffic from Wilmington and I-95 around Dover to the Atlantic Ocean beaches, relieving dangerous congestion on U.S. Route 13. The current study is part of a large program of archaeological study carried out by DelDOT and its consultants as part of the SR 1 project, the results of which have been published in the volumes of the DelDOT Archaeology Series, beginning in the mid-1980s.

The project corridor bypasses the historic town of Odessa, and crosses several areas with high potential for both historic and prehistoric archaeological sites (Figures 1 and 2). The project corridor is approximately 16 kilometers (10 miles) long, with a width that varies from 99 to 305 meters (325 to 1,000 feet). U.S. Route 13 is being relocated along portions of the corridor, and several access roads, a toll plaza, and two major interchanges (at SR 299 and County Road 420) are planned; these studies covered the rights-of-way for all these improvements. In addition, several wetland replacement areas associated with the SR 1 project area were also surveyed. Two of these wetland areas, designated Osborne and Lynch, were south of the main project area, along the Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners segment of SR 1 in Blackbird Hundred. The total project area, excluding the area covered by existing U.S. Route 13, measured approximately 286 hectares (707 acres). In order to facilitate the Phase I survey testing, a predictive model was used to divide the project area into areas of high and low archaeological potential (Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6). This model was based on the earlier (Custer et al. 1984) predictive model for the SR 1 corridor. The entire project area, including both high- and low-potential areas, was then inspected on foot to identify standing historic structures, ruins, or high-potential microenvironments not apparent on maps. All high-potential areas were surveyed intensively, as well as at least a 10 percent sample of low-potential areas.

The Phase I and Phase II archaeological investigations reported in this document were carried out between November 1994 and December 1995, covering four stages of fieldwork. The Phase I survey of the SR 1 corridor from Drawyer Creek to Pine Tree Corners, the southern 10 kilometers (6 miles) of the project area, was carried out in November and December, 1994. Phase I survey of the northern 6 kilometers (4 miles) of the project area, from Scott Run to Drawyer Creek, was completed in March and April, 1995. From April to June, 1995, Phase II testing was conducted on eight sites in the Drawyer Creek to Pine Tree Corners segment; Phase

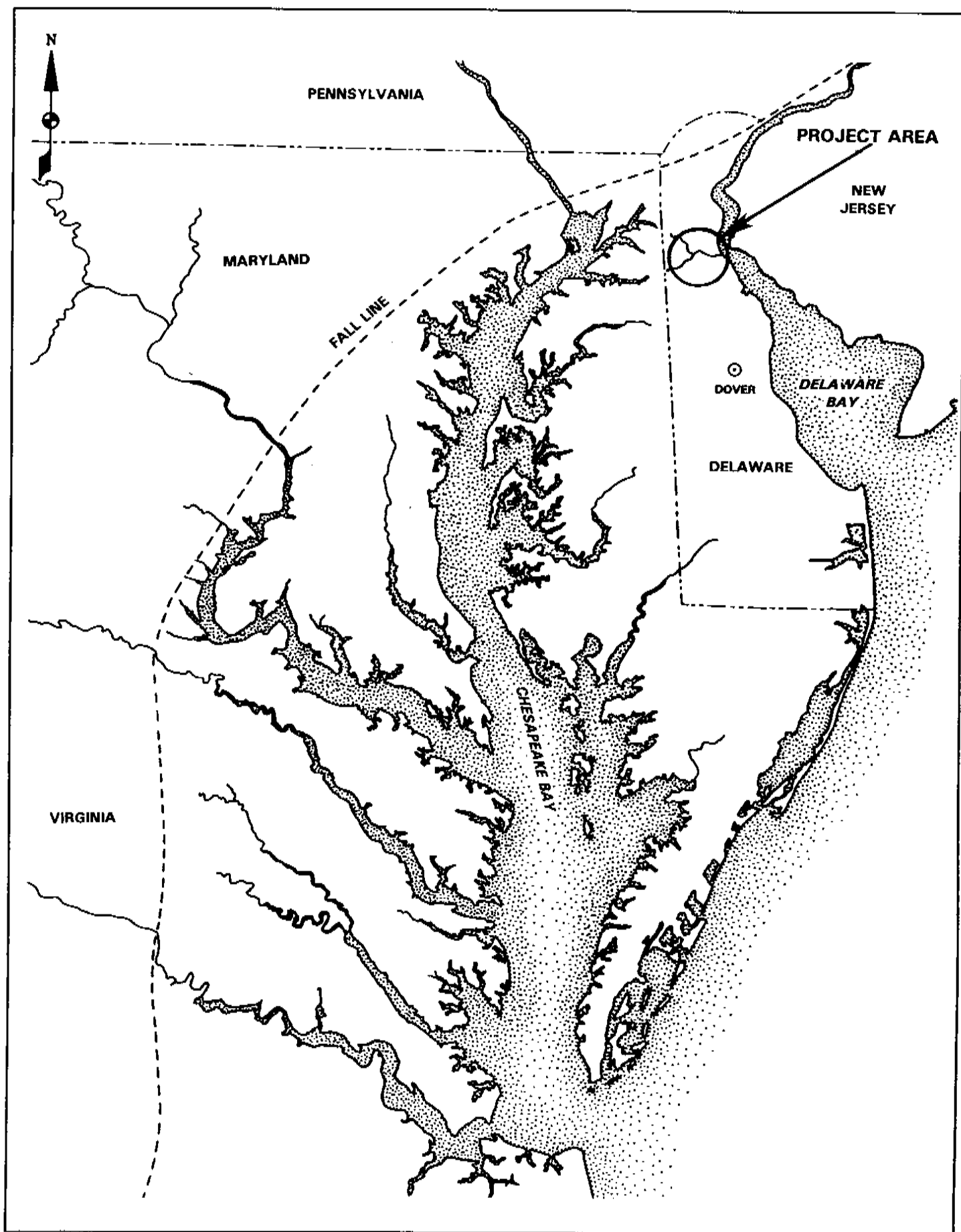


FIGURE 1: Project Area Location

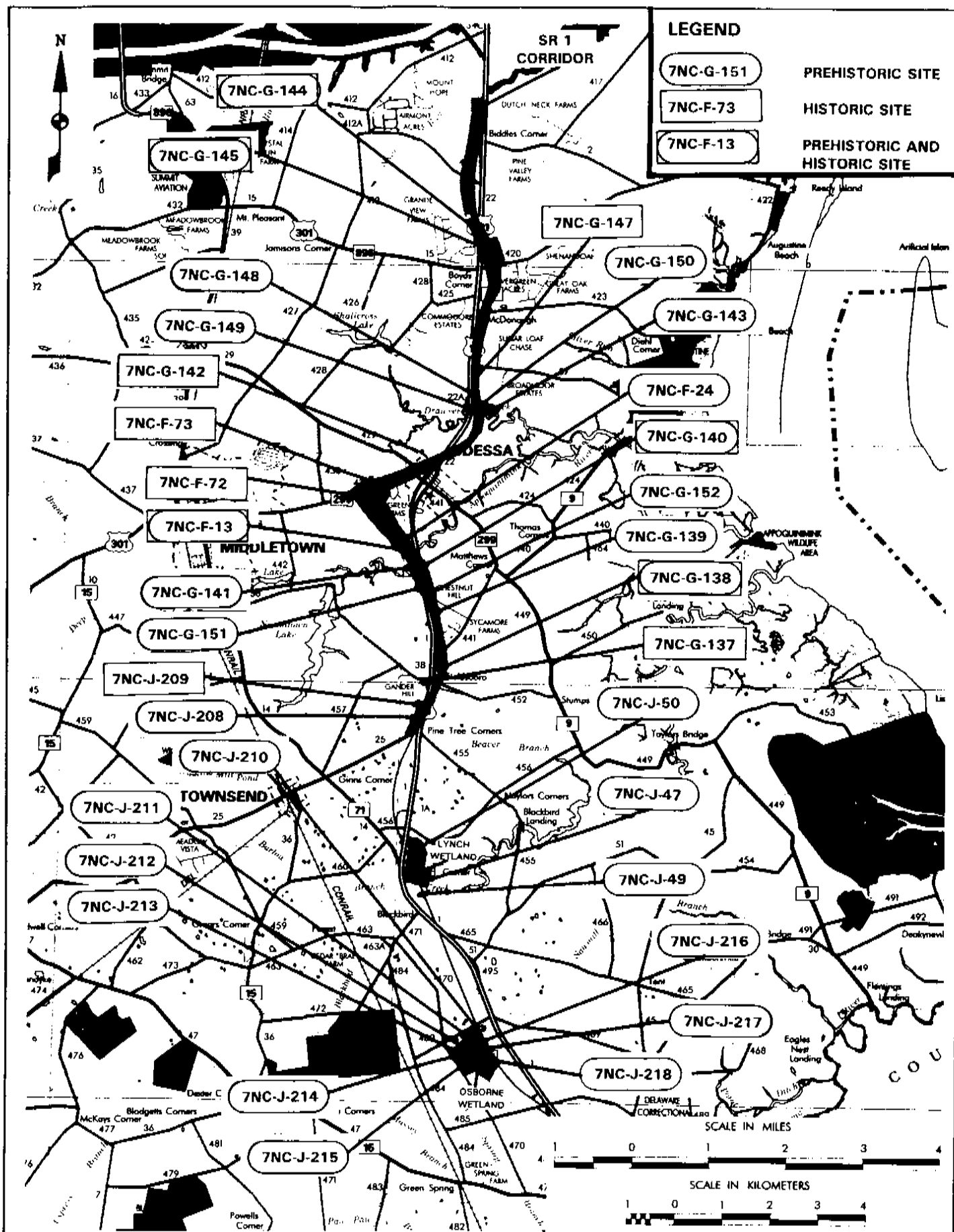


FIGURE 2: Project Corridor

SOURCE: DelDOT General Highway Map, New Castle County, Delaware, 1992

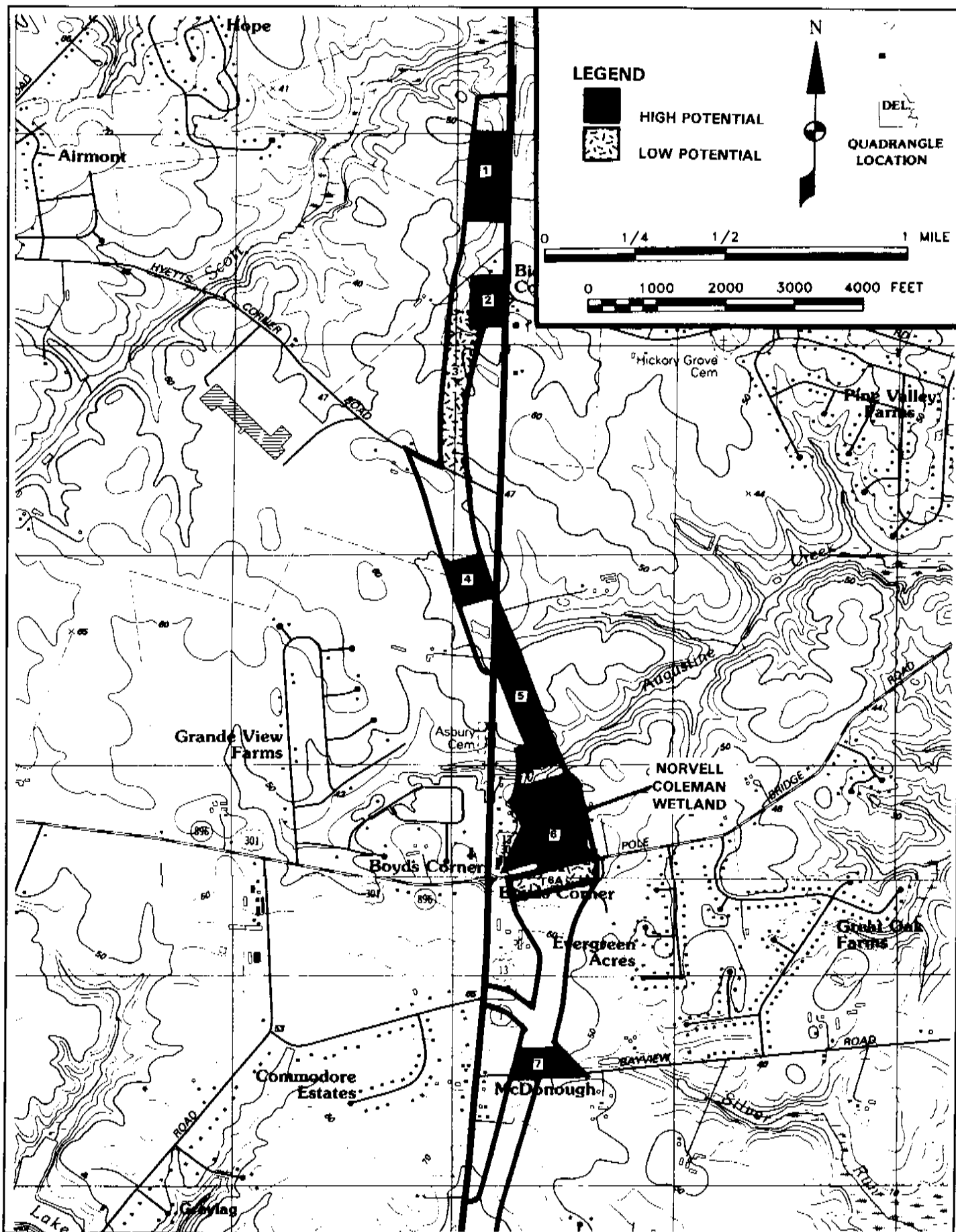


FIGURE 3: Project Corridor, Showing High and Low Potential Testing Areas, Northern SR 1 Segment SOURCE: USGS 7.5 Minute Series, Middletown and Saint Georges, Del. Quadrangles (photorevised 1993)

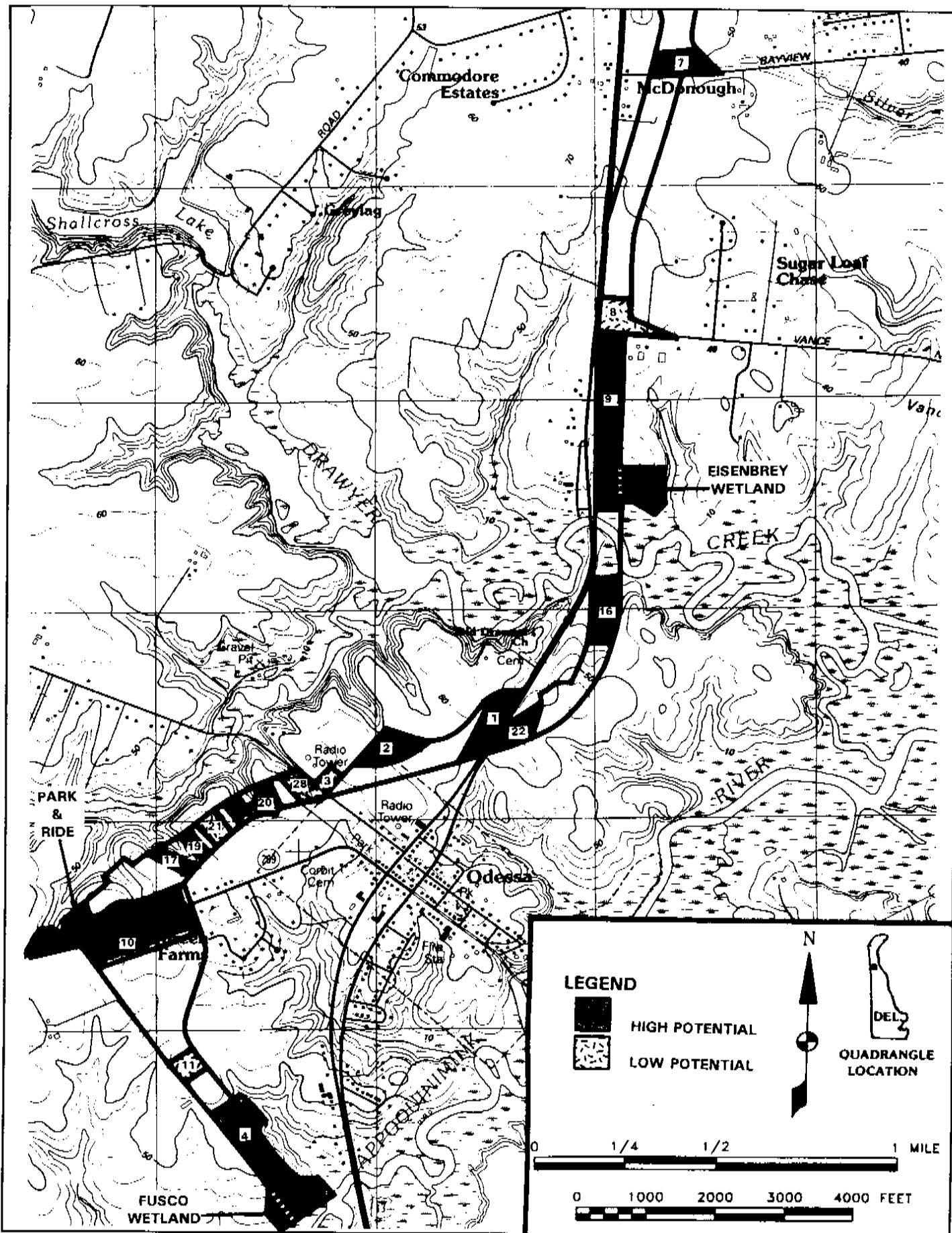


FIGURE 4: Project Corridor, Showing High and Low Potential Testing Areas, Central SR 1 Segment

SOURCE: USGS 7.5 Minute Series, Middletown, Del. Quadrangle (photorevised 1993)

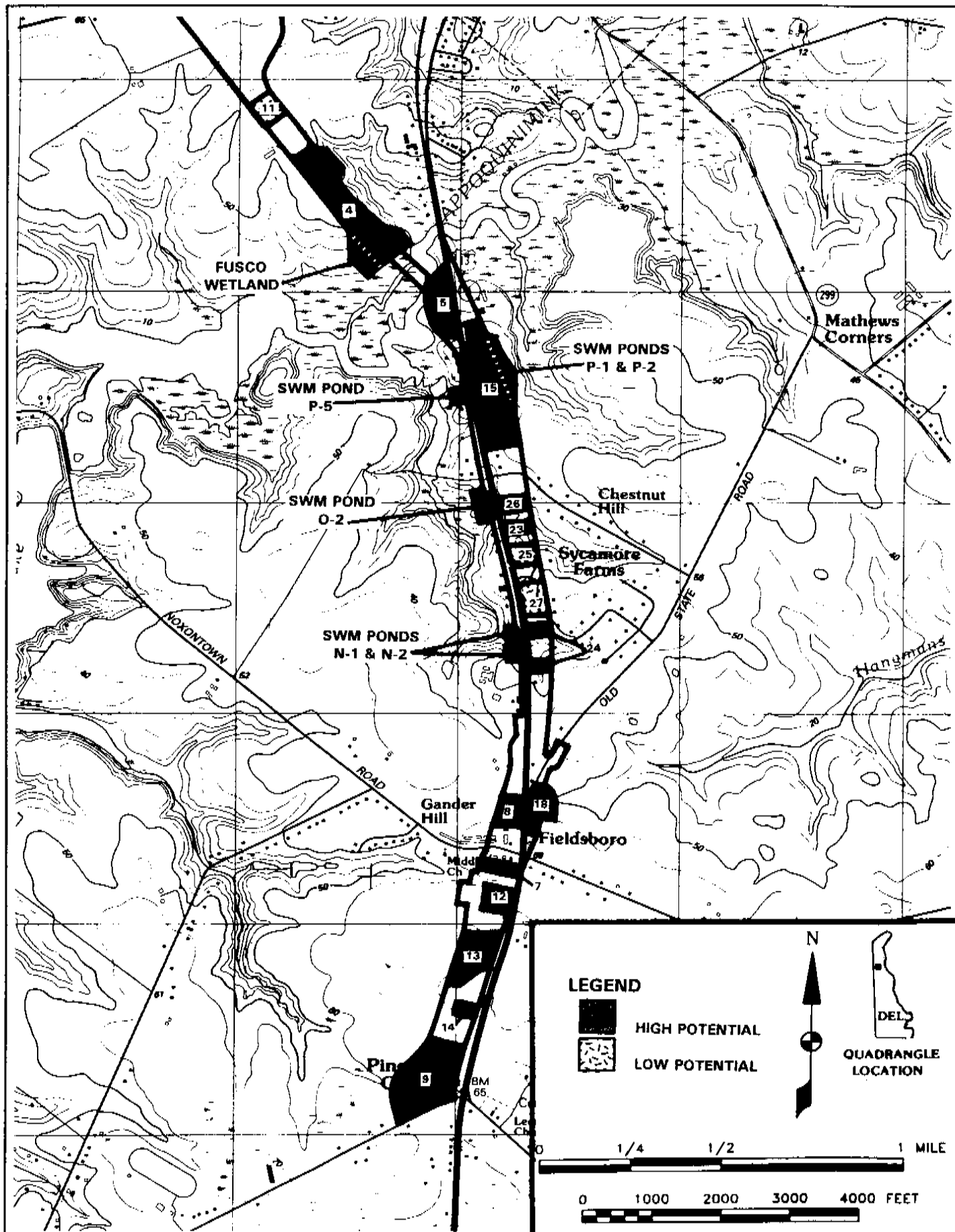


FIGURE 5: Project Corridor, Showing High and Low Potential Testing Areas, Southern SR 1 Segment

SOURCE: USGS 7.5 Minute Series, Middletown, Del. Quadrangle (photorevised 1993)

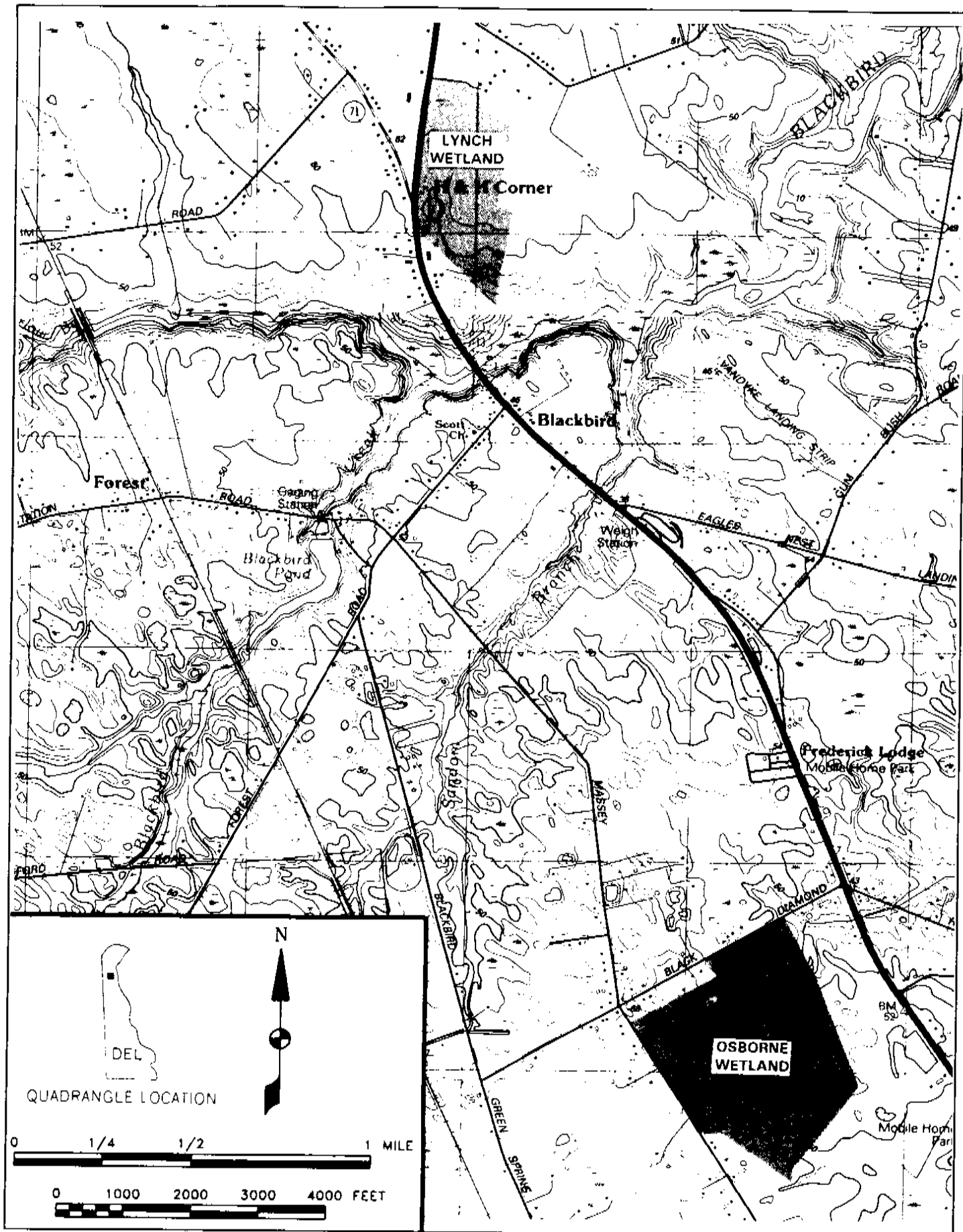


FIGURE 6: Lynch and Osborne Wetland Replacement Areas

SOURCE: USGS 7.5 Minute Series, Clayton and Middleton, Del. Quadrangles (photorevised 1970 and 1993)

I survey of the Eisenbrey, Fusco, and Osborne wetland replacement areas was also carried out at that time. During the period from September through December, 1995, field investigations included Phase I testing of the Lynch and Norvell/Coleman wetland replacement areas and the sites of several small storm water management ponds, as well as Phase II evaluations of nine sites in the Scott Run to Drawyer Creek segment, the Eisenbrey Wetland Mitigation Area, the Osborne Wetland Replacement Area, and Storm Water Management Area O-2. Each of these field investigations has been documented by the preparation of letter reports and management summaries, as well as formal Determinations of Eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), as appropriate.

The remainder of this report is organized into six chapters, plus appendices. Chapter II contains a description of the sites' environmental setting and a discussion of paleoenvironmental conditions. Chapter III provides a summary of the background research, including overviews of the regional history and prehistory and a summary of previous archaeological work conducted in the study area. Chapter IV outlines the research design which guided the investigations, including a statement of Phase I and Phase II research objectives, expected survey results, and a summary of the research methods. Chapter V presents the results of the Phase I survey, organized by survey areas and presented in order from north to south along the SR 1 corridor. Chapter VI includes the results of the site evaluations for the 17 sites that received Phase II investigation. The management recommendations concerning the sites' National Register eligibility are contained in Chapter VII.

Appendix A contains brief biographies of all project personnel. Appendix B is a brief tabulation of the artifacts recovered during the project. Appendix C contains a public information handout. Appendices A, B, and C are included in Volume I of this report. Volume II contains the remaining appendices, beginning with Appendix D, which includes formal Scopes of Work for all of the projects reported. Appendix E contains Delaware State Historic Preservation Office Cultural Resource Survey forms for all new sites documented during these projects. Appendix F contains completed National Register of Historic Places nomination forms for the five sites considered eligible for listing in the Register. Appendix G contains a detailed artifact inventory, and Appendix H contains the geomorphologist's reports.

The artifact collections from the sites have been prepared for permanent storage according to the standards of the Delaware State Museum. Original field records, photographs, and a complete set of artifact catalog listings have been prepared for storage with the collection.